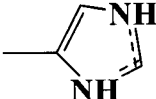


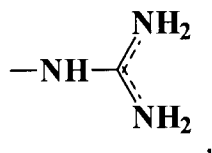
REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application and are subject to an election/restriction requirement. The Examiner contends that the claims are directed to patentably distinct species and has required Applicants to elect a single species for prosecution on the merits. The claims are directed to a process for preparing a N-alpha-acyl-L-arginine ester, and the Examiner has required election to a species of the formula recited in claims 1, 14, and 19 where (A) R₃ is selected from one of the following:

- (i) —NH_3 ,
(ii) $\text{—NH—C}(\text{NH}_2)_2$, or
(iii)  and

(B) n is selected from (a) 0, (b) 1, 2, or 4, or (c) 3.

Applicants elect with traverse a species of (A)(ii)/(B)(c) where R₃ is



and n is 3.

Applicants traverse the restriction on the ground that it would not be an undue burden on the Examiner to examine the various species. In particular, there are a limited number of R₃ groups and limited number of values for n, which relates to the number of $\text{—(CH}_2\text{)—}$ groups in the formula recited in claims 1, 14, and 19. Thus, while there are a number of different combinations or alternative compounds, the number is not so large that examining each R₃ group and each n would be an undue burden on the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the Application is now ready for prosecution on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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